CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Apparatus for generating shock waves directed at an area of a human or animal body to be treated,
wherein the shock-wave generating part (12) consists of piezoelectric fibers (14) integrated in a composite material (16).

2. Apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said piezoelectric fibers (14) are integrated in said composite material (16) such that their lengthwise direction shows to said area to be treated and/or to the direction of propagation (26) of the shock wave.

3. Apparatus according to claim 2,
wherein said piezoelectric fibers (14) integrated in said composite material (16) form at least one module (22) with said composite material (16).

4. Apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein said at least one module (22) forms a spatial unit.

5. Apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein said at least one module (22) forms a unit by means of common electrically connected piezoelectric fibers (14).

6. Apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein said at least one module (22) is designed in geometrically different forms.

7. Apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein several of said module (22) are arranged next to one another.

8. Apparatus according to claim 7,
wherein said several modules (22) are interconnected individually, in groups or with one another.

9. Apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein said at least one module (22) is arranged on a carrier (24).

10. Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said module carrier (24) is designed in geometrically different forms.

11. Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said module carrier (24) is designed in an electrically conductive way.

12. Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said piezoelectric fibers (14) are designed to be commonly contacted on their respective terminals (3).

13. Apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said terminals (30) are designed with at least one electrical connection.

14. Apparatus according to claim 13, wherein one of said electrical connections is connected with said module carrier (24).

15. Use of piezoelectric fibers (14) for generating shock waves for the treatment of the human or animal body.